

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is submitted responsive to the Official action mailed February 24, 2004. Reconsideration of the application in light of the accompanying remarks and amendments is respectfully requested.

In the aforesaid action, the Examiner indicated that claims 1-5 and 7-10 were allowed. Claims 11 and 12 were rejected and claim 13 withdrawn as non-elected.

By the present amendment, claims 11-13 have been cancelled without prejudice, specifically preserving the right to pursue same by continuation, division or otherwise.

The Examiner required submission of additional drawings in connection with claims 4 and 8.

By the present amendment, a proposed Figure 8 is provided which schematically shows a rotor with decreasing pitch magnitude. Upon approval of the proposed drawing correction, an amendment will be made to the specification to add reference to Figure 8, and a formal drawing will be added. It is submitted that this drawing cures the issue in connection with claim 4

As to the requirement in connection with an additional thermal mass on the rotor (claim 8), attention is had to Figure 4 wherein there is more material at the discharge end than the suction end of the rotor. It is believed that no additional drawing is needed in connection with claim 8.

Based upon the foregoing, it is believed that the claims are in condition for issuance of a notice of allowance and such favorable action is respectfully solicited.


An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

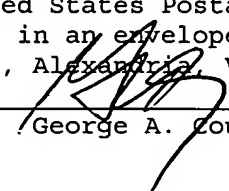
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on August 24, 2004


George A. Coury